

INTERESTING ITEMS.

TO REMOVE LONDON'S MARBLE ARCH



London's Marble Arch is to be razed to the ground before Jan. 1. Most

British Iron and Steel.
The severity of American competition in iron and steel has led to the breaking of the British pool in those industries. In Great Britain, as in the United States, there was an agreement to maintain prices, that of steel rails being held at from £7 to £7 5s per ton. As soon as the manufacturers were allowed a free hand open competition ensued, a drop in the price of nearly £1 a ton following. In Great Britain, in the United States, many orders had been held up because of the unnatural prices, and these were released when prices reached a normal basis. As a result the Ironmonger declares that the manufacturers will be real gainers. There is a hint in this incident for the members of the American pool, who must know that many orders are being held in anticipation of lower prices. There is coming to be a well defined belief that the plan of the iron and steel men is to make successive reductions and take orders at each rate until they can get no more at that price, when they will make a still lower rate. This, however, leads to the holding of more orders for the lower prices.

Fear Causes Death.
The death of John R. Beart in Chicago the other day, illustrates a point that has been dwelt upon for years by physicians and surgeons. Mr. Beart in August last had a struggle with a dog and was bitten in three places. The struggle in itself was of a character to produce nervous exhaustion, to say nothing of the mutilation by the dog. Upon examination it was shown that the dog was not afflicted with rabies. Mr. Beart recovered from the immediate effects of the struggle and returned to his work. But a week before his death he was taken ill and grew steadily worse to the end. Those in attendance believe he died of fear of hydrophobia. There is no dispute as to the main facts in the case. The dog that attacked Mr. Beart did not have any disease. Mr. Beart had no symptoms of hydrophobia, but he lived for months in horror of the most dreaded of diseases, and this resulted in conditions that caused his death. If the dog that made the attack on Mr. Beart had been killed, as is usual in such cases, the case would undoubtedly have been catalogued in the hydrophobia list. As the case stands, it gives strength to the theory that a great many of the so-called cases of rabies are produced solely by fear.

The Rummage Sale.
The latest fad of society is the "rummage sale." It began in New England and is rapidly making its way all over the country. In a certain sense the "rummage sale" is a sort of housecleaning on a large scale. The housekeeper takes an account of stock, with the result of finding numerous things which are too good to give away or throw away and yet are hardly good enough to keep. Such articles have usually found their way to the second-hand stores or the cart of the peddler, but as the owners get little or nothing for them the New England spirit of thrift has devised the "rummage sale," which, so long as it remains a fad, will insure profitable returns.

To Sullivan's Men.
Joseph W. Stockler of Orange, N. J., will erect a monument in Athens, Pa., in commemoration of the soldiers and sailors of Bradford county. It will stand in the center of the old academy lawn, on the spot where Gen. Sullivan of revolutionary fame camped on his march against the Six Nations of New York in 1779. The pedestal is to be of pink Stony Creek granite. Surmounting the pedestal there will be a bronze group of heroic size, entitled "The Defense of the Flag." The entire structure will be 30 feet high.

General Juan Luis Buerro of Guatemala, who is now in San Francisco on a visit, was a lieutenant colonel on the staff of General John C. Fremont when the pathfinder made his second trip across the Rockies. He went to Guatemala in 1879 and has a concession for a line of road over the Chucapache Mountains, around the great volcano of Santa Maria, which is 14,000 feet high.

Londoners and most provincial people who come to London know the Mar-

To Discuss Sunday Cars.
It is rather remarkable that Edinburgh is still discussing the question whether it shall have Sunday street cars. This will be one of the burning side questions of the municipal election. There has recently been introduced into Edinburgh a splendid installation of cable cars, which is entirely shut down at present on Sunday, and many people do not see why it should not be utilized on Sundays as well as on week days, especially to enable the working classes to get out into the country to breathe the fresh air. One candidate, a lawyer, has come to grief in an amusing way over this question. When asked if he was in favor of running Sunday cars he answered in the negative, and followed it up by an expression of his veneration for the quietude of the "dear old Scottish Sabbath." A newspaper reporter, however, found out that the gentleman in question spent most of his Sundays at one of the golf links in the neighborhood of Edinburgh, which covered the defender of the Sabbath with confusion.—M. E. Gilbert in Chicago Record.

Russia's Royal Palace.



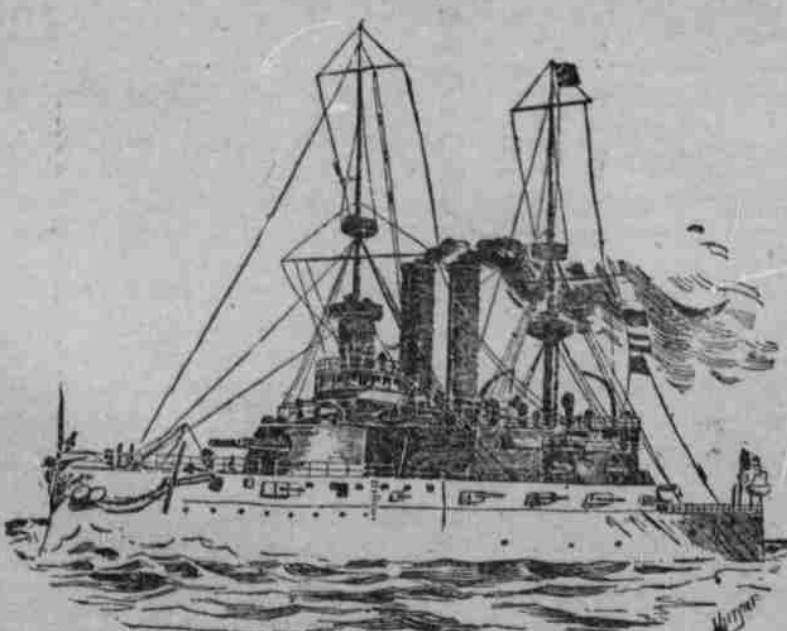
Little Palace at Livadia where the ruler of the Russias has his private apartments.

Sunday Fishing Not Sinful.
Rev. I. N. Marx is rector of the Protestant Episcopal church at Lake Geneva, the Wisconsin summer and piscatorial resort. He has delighted the hearts of summer resorters and sportsmen by declaring in a recent sermon that Sunday fishing is not sinful if the fisherman is too busy to follow his sport on week days and if there is "no neglect of duty or religious responsibility."

Rev. James Gray, formerly Presbyterian minister in Pretoria, has been appointed by Lord Roberts acting librarian of the library there. The reverend gentleman a few weeks before the outbreak of hostilities publicly denounced Krugerism from the pulpit and had to flee to Durban in consequence.

From December 31 to March 4 Theodore Roosevelt will play what is for him the unaccustomed role of a private citizen.

The Battleship Illinois



The first-class battleship Illinois, which is rapidly nearing completion at the yard of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company in Newport News, is expected to go out on her builders' trial some time during the first week in December. At that time the splendid fighter will be practically complete, and, if necessary, could engage a hostile ship while out

on her trial. The four thirteen inch guns, which compose her formidable main battery, will be mounted in the turrets fore and aft, seven six-inch guns will protrude from each side of the vessel, and even the smaller guns will be in place, while all armor will be riveted on. The Illinois was launched Oct. 4, 1898, and was christened by Miss Daisy Letter of Chicago.

ble Arch, but not one in a thousand is acquainted with its history. The general impression is that it is a memorial of some kind. The Marble Arch, however, is nothing of the kind, for it was built by King George IV. as an entrance to Buckingham palace, where it did duty in that capacity for many years.

But as the gateway to Buckingham palace the arch was a failure. It had the effect of dwarfing the royal residence, and visitors who went to view the royal home from the exterior saw "plenty of gate," to quote an old description, "and little palace."

Accordingly it was, in 1850, removed to its present situation in Hyde Park. Eighty thousand pounds was the original cost of the arch.

Unlike the majority of such edifices, the Marble Arch is not solid. The "man in the street" believes it is, for he has forgotten the circumstance that in the time of the Hyde Park riots a large force of police were hid in the arch and were able to disperse the rioters at the specified moment. The incident at the time excited some attention for the police seemed to rise from the ground, and the most knowing of the rioters never anticipated that the arch hid so many policemen.

Monument to Ginter.
A number of prominent coal men of Pennsylvania have decided to erect a monument of coal to Philip Ginter, the discoverer of that fuel, at Summit Hill, near Mauch Chunk. One hundred and nine years ago Ginter lived in a rough cabin in the forests on the Mauch Chunk Mountain. While in quest of game for his family, whom he had left at home without food of any kind, his foot struck a black stone. By the roadside, not far from the town of Summit Hill, he built a fire of wood, and threw pieces of the supposed stone about it, so that the embers might last longer while he was roasting a fowl. He was surprised, after a little while, to see the stones glow and retain their heat for a long time. He carried a lot of the coal home and burned it there. The few neighbors soon learned of the discovery, but there was no mining to any extent in Carbon county until after the war of 1812 had begun.

Active Work for Ship Canal.
The executive committee of the Illinois Valley association met in Chicago last week, and appointed a sub-committee which will go to Washington this winter and urge upon Congress its project for the building of a fourteen-foot deep water ship canal between Chicago and St. Louis. Among those present at the meeting was Congressman Walter Reeves, who told the committee that in his opinion Congress would be inclined to listen with more favor to a proposition to build a channel with an average depth of eight instead of fourteen feet. In this opinion Mr. Reeves had the backing of his colleagues, Congressman Graff. The two congressmen were overruled, however, by the almost unanimous sense of the committee, which was strongly in favor of the deeper channel.

Has Held the Title Longest.
The Prince of Wales, who has just celebrated his 59th birthday, has now held his title the longest in English history. Previously the distinction belonged to George IV., who was Prince of Wales for 58 years. Within a month of his birth the prince was created Duke of Cornwall and Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron Renfrew, lord of the Isles, Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, while in 1850 he was made Earl of Dublin. When he wishes to travel on the quiet the Prince goes as Lord Renfrew and sometimes as the Earl of Chester.

In the interest of reform Mme. Prascovic Arian publishes every year in Russia a woman's rights calendar, including the laws passed relating to women and various women's societies.

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm — A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

Poultry Briefs.
This is the time of year to purchase stock for the breeding pens. The prices at this time are more reasonable than at any other season of the year. The men that have a goodly lot of birds on hand are anxious to realize on them and must face a good deal of competition from other fanciers. This reduces the price.

There is little danger of cleaning out poultry houses too often. We notice that a writer in an exchange says that this cleaning out a poultry house every day is all nonsense. He may be right, but the fellows that clean out the poultry house every day are merely erring on virtue's side, and it is well to let them alone. The great difficulty with most poultry houses is that they are not cleaned out often enough. The fowls have to suffer greatly during the warm nights of winter, when ammonia is rising from the mass of fermenting droppings.

The number of poultry shows being held this year in different parts of the country is said to be greater than usual which fact speaks much for the condition of the poultry industry. These shows are bound to have a very salutary influence on the development of the poultry industry, especially as to the raising of the standard of breeding among farmers.

A California paper publishes a communication from a reader who thinks he has discovered a new poultry pest, which he describes as "something like a bed bug." It is not only like the bed bug, but is the bed bug, for this household pest is also a poultry pest. It is about as difficult to exterminate them as it is the red mite, but can be accomplished with heroic measures.

A contemporary says that the morning feed should be warm and should be fed as early as possible. There are various practices in the feeding of soft feeds, and all equally profitable. While it is a good practice to give the warm mash in the morning, especially in cold weather, we do not see any great advantage on the feeding of the soft food at other times during the day. The real good is to relieve the over-worked digestive organs.

We sometimes see strange advice given in poultry journals, and here is a sample: "Table or kitchen scraps, as fed, usually do more harm than good, for they are made up of mouldy bread, cake and pie, scraps of salt meat, and scraps of pure fat. It is a safe rule not to feed anything from the kitchen to poultry that is unfit for human consumption. There is no profit in it. It is cheaper to burn or bury such stuff than to feed it." Then what becomes of the saying that the "French nation could live off what the American nation wastes"? Small flocks of poultry are valuable for the very reason that they eat the scraps from the table, which would otherwise be wasted. Meat that is too salt for human food does not often find its way to the hens. We certainly could not advise the farmers to throw away the scraps instead of giving them to the poultry. The variety of food that the hens get in the table scraps goes a long way to keeping them in good condition.

Dairying in California.

In the alfalfa districts one hears incredible reports concerning the productiveness of the soil. Enormous crops are common, and five or six cuttings a year are not unusual. Irrigation is practiced to a considerable extent. Here, too, grain is seldom used. When cows are grazing they are usually given a small amount of hay at night, and a little bran is occasionally fed. One dairyman, who paid \$175 an acre for his forty-acre ranch, reports that he receives about \$100 per month from the creamery for the milk of his thirty cows. He uses no grain, pastures eight months, and feeds his four months each year. His herd consists of ordinary grades and fairly represents many others which have been built up within a short time from stock which is better for beef production than for the dairy.

It is stated on good authority that a dairyman in Yolo county fed ninety milk cows in a corral from March 10 to July 15, 1897, on alfalfa cut from thirty-two acres. No other feed was used. The cows gave satisfactory results in milk yield and were in better condition at the close of the period than at the beginning. The custom of keeping cattle out of doors is made possible by the prevailing mild climate. On many ranches the animals never go under a roof to be milked or for any other purpose.

These facts make it evident that the California dairymen have good cause to boast of their ability to produce milk cheaply. As might be expected, they have much room for improvement. They admit that in many ways their methods are extravagant and not a few of them are leading in movements toward economy. The more careful selection of cows for the dairy and especially the selection of good stock for breeding is a line of improvement which would show splendid results.

Tests of Holstein-Friesians.

This class of records is made uniformly under supervision of state experiment stations at the homes of the owners of the cows. They are for seven consecutive days, and the fat is de-

termined by the Babcock test. The equivalents of butter are calculated by the superintendent of advanced registry from reports sent him from these stations. During September one report and during October nine reports were received. Summarized they are as follows: Three full age cows, average 6 years, 11 months, 4 days, thirty-six days after calving, milk 437 pounds, butter fat 17.514 pounds; equivalent butter 80 per cent, fat 21 pounds, 14.3 ounces; equivalent 85.7 per cent; fat 20 pounds, 6.9 ounces; two 4-year-olds, average 4 years, 3 months, 19 days, forty-three days after calving, milk 447.5 pounds, butter fat 13.170 pounds; equivalent butter 80 per cent, fat 16 pounds, 9.4 ounces; equivalent 85.7 per cent fat 15 pounds, 7.7 ounces; five classed as 2-year-olds, average 2 years, 25 days, fifteen days after calving, milk 274.7 pounds, butter fat 8.397 pounds; equivalent butter 80 per cent, fat 10 pounds, 7.9 ounces; equivalent 85.7 per cent, fat 9 pounds, 12.7 ounces.—S. Hoppe.

Sheep on the Western Range.

A Colorado writer, speaking of the fall and winter outlook for feeding lambs, says: "The lamb feeding situation for this fall and winter is just now interesting. All parts of the south and west report a very heavy crop of lambs. Prospective buyers who have traveled over the sections note that there will be also a big cutback—there have been too many twins to permit the entire holdings to sell at an even price. Growers are soliciting business and quoting close around last year's prices. Some buyers say that never before have they been deluged with so many offers to sell. Very few contracts have been closed, however, for buyers, almost to a man, are satisfied that they can get all they want, and the longer they wait the less money will they have to pay. They reason this way: Good sales years do not follow in succession. Last winter's feeding averaged about \$7.25, the best price in years, and every feeder made money. The year before he lost heavy, and now that he has a gain he proposes to keep it. While this spring's market averaged \$7.25, next spring it is just as liable to go down to \$5.25 as not, for there is surely going to be a great deal of feeding, and good reason to think there will be more than in many years, thus creating an immense volume of production. This volume is going to be created through the fact that there is bound to be (according to conditions today) a scarcity of winter feed, especially in the west and northwest, and the impossibility of the rangeland to carry their stock, coupled with the fact that there will be plenty of grain and grass feed east, will result in large sales and at low prices. This is the condition as presented today. There must be frequent good rains for the next month to insure the feed in the west, yet in many places it would do no good.

Dairy Notes.

Dr. S. M. Babcock, chemist of the Wisconsin Agricultural College and experiment station, is to have a bronze medal. This was ordered at the last session of the legislature of Wisconsin as a token of the esteem in which the state holds Mr. Babcock. The regents of the University of Wisconsin have made Mr. Babcock assistant director of the experiment station and have increased his salary \$500 a year. We believe that all farmers will be glad at the recognition the distinguished chemist is receiving. He invented a test of great value to the world and refused to patent it. It is now almost universally used. It is right that he should be rewarded.

It is surprising to note the indifference of some farmers to the quality of their cows. We might almost say that the farmer is a fatalist when it comes to cow owning. If a cow sells at a certain price on the market he imagines that the cow is worth that price and buys her for his herd of milkers without fully investigating the real value of the animal as a milker. It is not only true that half of the cows in the country are not profit makers, but it is also true that farmers are all the time buying cows that have in them no possibility of profit. How shall we induce farmers to get rid of the unprofitable cows? This is one of the great problems of dairying.

The hand separator and the small power separator are growing in popularity on the farm, and it is not to be wondered at. It is very easy to separate the fat from the milk at home and take the cream in the buggy to the factory or turn it over to the man that comes after it. The skim milk can then be fed before it is sour and there is no necessity for heating it to 185 degrees, unless the cows that produced it are suspected of being tuberculous. This is one of the surest ways of checking tuberculosis, and for this reason, if for no other, we would advise the purchase of separators wherever the number of cows is great enough to warrant it.

Many farmers prefer to make their compost in heaps. A common plan is to lay down a bed of peat six or eight feet wide and a foot or so thick, to cover it with a layer of dung of somewhat less thickness, followed by another layer of peat, and so on, until the heap has become three or four feet high.

Too much care cannot be exercised in handling diseased cattle. A San Antonio (Texas) stock raiser is now in the hospital suffering from blood poisoning caught from skinning a cow that died from black leg. He is in care of the surgeons and it is feared he will lose his arm.

Hunting Tuberculosis in Ohio.

By act of the last general assembly of Ohio the agricultural experiment station is charged with the duty of conducting investigations to determine the prevalence and best methods of prevention of tuberculosis and other diseases of cattle throughout the state. In accordance with this provision the station has employed a veterinarian to assist in carrying out the work thus authorized.

This work is simply one of research and education; in conducting it the experiment station has no authority to go upon any man's premises to inspect his cattle except upon his invitation; it cannot require him to destroy any animals except by mutual agreement, nor can it offer him any compensation for the loss of cattle from tubercular or other diseases.

The experiment station is able, however, to offer the assistance of the station veterinarian in the prevention and control of bovine tuberculosis, and through the co-operation of Dr. D. E. Salmon, chief of the bureau of animal industry, United States department of agriculture, it is enabled to include the tuberculin diagnosis in this offer, under the following conditions:

Whenever evidence satisfactory to the experiment station is furnished that tuberculosis probably exists in a herd of five or more cattle within the state, the station will test the entire herd with tuberculin, such test to be free of all cost to the herd owner except the board of the station's agent while making the test (about two days for every herd of 20 animals or less) and his transportation to and from the nearest railway station. In some cases it may be possible to include two or more small herds, or several single animals, in a single test, by having these animals so placed together that they may be easily tested.

In the case of the state and county benevolent institutions, children's homes especially, the station offers to make an annual tuberculin test of their herds without requiring any evidence of the appearance of tuberculosis as a prerequisite to such a test, the only requirement being the board and transportation of the station's agent, as above mentioned.

When animals are found which show external evidences of the disease the owner will be advised to destroy them at once, as such animals are centers of infection to those around them and thus are sources of increasing loss. In the case of apparently healthy animals which react under the tuberculin test, the advice of the station will be that they be slaughtered for beef under governmental inspection, first fattening them for a few months if necessary. Experience has shown that fat and apparently healthy animals are occasionally found, on slaughter, to be in advanced stages of tuberculosis; but that many of the animals which react to the tuberculin test when first made in a tuberculous herd, will be found to be in the incipient stages of the disease only, and these may be safely used for food if slaughtered under proper inspection, whereas if permitted to remain in the herd they will soon become too far diseased to be thus used and will, moreover, become distributors of the infection.

Developing Fecundity.

The question of fecundity is a great one to the man that is devoting his energies to the raising of swine. A man should at the beginning look forward to the time when he will have only first-class breeders. If one sow raises five pigs at a litter and does no better with each of them than the hog that raises ten at a litter, it is evident that the breeder is losing enormously by not having sows that will bear the larger number. Fortunately or unfortunately the development of our modern breeds has necessitated the elimination of a large per cent of the principle of fecundity, and our fine, plump, deep hogs have fewer pigs than the old prototype. It is also a fact that some of our modern breeds differ from each other in fecundity. It is believed that this difference is due largely to the kind of feed they have received during the later years of their development. If this be true the swine that have been fed on nitrogenous foods should have more fecundity than those that have been fed almost entirely on corn, and we find that to be an apparent fact. The way to increase fecundity therefore is to feed a ration that is not over balanced with corn.

Market Uniform Hogs.

If a man has a good many hogs to send to market and intends to send them along in different lots, it will generally pay him to select for each lot animals of a uniform size and finish. Uniformity pleases the eye and exerts an influence on every man, though the man subject to the influence may not be aware of it. The buyer may not really intend to pay for uniformity in his purchases of swine, but he will often do so in spite of himself. If a man have a number of pigs that are not up to the average of the others, it will often pay him to hold them back and feed them for a few weeks longer. A buyer will not willingly turn away from a nice lot of uniform animals just to save a little on the price of each.

Hog Weed for Fodder.

We notice in an exchange the experiences of some farmers that were short of hay and cured the hog weeds for fodder. They claim that their stock readily eat these weeds when cured, and the weeds do not seem to mind drouth. If they can be used for hay they might become very valuable instead of a nuisance on the farm. If any of our readers have had experience in this matter we would like to hear from them.